

MEETING  
OF THE  
Democratic-Conservative State Executive  
Committee.

JACKSON, February 14, 1880.  
A meeting of the Democratic-Conservative State Executive Committee will be held at Jackson, at 11 o'clock, A. M., Tuesday, March 2nd. A full attendance is requested.

E. BARKSDALE,  
Chairman.  
MEMBERS.  
E. BARKSDALE, B. F. KIMBROUGH,  
J. C. PREWITT, R. C. PATTY,  
W. W. HUMPHRIES, A. J. BAKER,  
W. A. PERCY, M. F. BERRY,  
G. D. SHANDS, WM. MCWILLIE,  
R. H. ALLEN, E. F. GRIFFIN,  
L. D. McDOWELL, T. E. COOPER,  
R. H. TAYLOR, T. OTIS BAKER,  
G. M. KLEIN.

It will be seen that the Humphries Railroad bill passed the Senate yesterday, by a vote of 19 to 9. Now, for the House.

We have devoted a large space of our present number to the able address of Mr. Magruder of Claiborne. We commend it to the particular attention of the law makers of the State.

The Enormous Advance in the Price of Printing Paper.

The price of printing paper has run up enormously. Within the past three months it has advanced nearly one hundred per cent. This is a grievous hardship upon newspaper publishers, authors and all others who deal in printer's ink. The paper manufacturers are reaping a rich harvest, but the large class to whom we have referred, and the numerous persons who make their living by the employment which they have obtained in this way, are great sufferers. There is but one way in which relief can be afforded, and it ought to be applied at once. It is to break up the monopoly enjoyed by the paper manufacturers and to pass the bill now before Congress to admit paper and all articles that enter into its manufacture, free of duty. In order that the voice of the Press Association of Mississippi may be authoritatively expressed in favor of this measure, we would respectfully call upon R. H. Henry Esq., the President of the State Association to make an urgent appeal to Congress on behalf of the bill, and to solicit the Mississippi delegation to give it their earnest support.

Let the whole press of the country speak out, and speak with one united voice.

The Hinds county Gazette of the 18th comes to hand with an appropriate tribute to the memory of one of our county's oldest and best citizens, Dr. Robert White, who departed this life on the 28th ultimo, at his home near Utica, and in the sixty-eighth year of his age. He was born near Lynchburg, Va., in the year 1811. About 1826 his father emigrated to the then new State of Tennessee, and settled near Lebanon, where the subject of this notice was reared to manhood. He settled in Hinds county, Mississippi, in 1833, and there remained until his death, respected and beloved by all. He served his county in the Legislature one or more terms, but preferred his chosen pursuit of medicine and the pleasures of a home life. He has gone to his rest, leaving a name which is linked with the remembrance of nothing but what is good.

Hon. James R. Chalmers.

Vicksburg Commercial.]  
The admirable selection of the Democratic District Convention held in this city in 1875, of a standard bearer in the person of Gen. James R. Chalmers, of Coahoma, and his heroic and well directed leadership of what was then considered a forlorn hope, placed the Shoestring District firmly within the pale of the Democratic certainty. His faithful performance of his promises after his entrance into the National House of Representatives, his advocacy of measures devised for the material advancement of the voters of his District regardless of their political or physical complexion, reassured him a triumphant re-election, and the handsome majority given him by the colored voters of his District, manifested clearly the approbation of many of his former opponents, of his public services as a Democrat, and an unpartisan public servant.

The Improvement of Pearl River Navigation.

Considering that Pearl River, which runs from the seashore of our State directly through the centre, and more than half its length, and is contiguous to large bodies of the best timbered land in the world, and that large quantities of these lands belong to the general government, and their value cannot be realized without the improvement of its navigation, we have contended, apart from other considerations, that the United States Congress ought to make appropriations sufficient for the removal of the obstacles to its navigation. One hundred thousand dollars, it is said by steamboatmen experienced in that stream, would be sufficient for the purpose, if judiciously expended, but two or three hundred thousand dollars would be a moderate appropriation compared to what is demanded and obtained for the improvement of other streams, and the accomplishment of objects of public concern, in other portions of the country, and some of them even, in the south. Withness the many hundreds of thousands of dollars that have been lavished upon the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers, in our own vicinity. But go Northward, and there whatever money is needed to carry out similar, and even less meritorious objects, has been voted lavishly for the asking. While we are writing we have before us a bill which was passed at a late session of Congress for the improvement of rivers and harbors which illustrates the partiality that has been shown in dispensing the favors of the government. For example, at one fell-swoop: Boston Harbor \$55,000 (in addition to the millions hitherto voted in that direction); sundry small streams in Vermont \$48,000, in Rhode Island \$55,000, in Connecticut \$136,000, in New York \$991,000, in Pennsylvania \$171,000, in West Virginia (which happened to get a good hand in the deal) \$250,000, Old Virginia \$224,000, North Carolina \$241,000, Ohio \$253,000, Tennessee \$476,000, (principally for the Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers), Michigan, \$565,000; Oregon \$225,000; Wisconsin river, \$250,000, etc. Among the schemes that are now being put through Congress by our Eastern fellow-citizens are a ship canal in New Jersey, to cost \$3,200,000; the deepening of Chesapeake creek, New Jersey, at a cost of \$75,000; improving South river, New Jersey, at \$195,000; making the Susquehanna a "great national highway" at an expense of \$25,000,000; Harlem river and Hell-gate improvements, New York, at \$5,000,000. Now, while these appropriations are being made for objects purely local, in other portions of the Union, are we unreasonable in claiming a moderate appropriation for the improvement of our great inland river, in the navigation of which the United States Government itself is directly interested by reason of the large quantities of valuable timber lands which it owns contiguous to the stream, and which cannot be utilized without such improvements.

The Natchez, Jackson and Columbus Railroad.  
A large majority of the citizens of our county, we are sure, will read with little satisfaction the following from a late Natchez Democrat:  
The contract for doing the grading, bridging and tieing of the Natchez, Jackson and Columbus railroad from the Hinds county line to Jackson, was yesterday signed by the contractors and the President of the Company. Under the provisions of this contract, work will be commenced at or near Jackson about March 1st, and is to be finished by the first day of December, if not sooner. The cost of the earthwork, it is estimated, will be \$45,000, and the bridging and tieing of the road \$30,000, making a total of \$75,000 for preparing the route for the laying of the rails through Hinds county to Jackson. It is thought that \$180,000 cash will be realized from the sale of the \$200,000 of Hinds county bonds. After deducting the \$75,000 for preparing the road-bed, there will be left \$105,000 for the purchase of iron for the road in Hinds county, which will be nearly, if not quite enough, to iron this part of the road. Messrs. Duffin & Co., we understand, are also willing to contract at the same rate for the building of the gap between Martin and the Hinds county line, and the contract will in all probability, be awarded to them as soon as proper arrangements for doing so can be made.

Gen. Featherston.

The Oxford Eagle says that Gen. W. S. Featherston is "the unanimous choice of all the leading lawyers of North Mississippi for Supreme Judge, the declarations and dispatches of trading politicians to the contrary notwithstanding."

MAJOR WHEB, a competent writer, has been elected editor of the Grange Department of the Southern Herald, by the County Grange of Amite county.

THE LABOR QUESTION.

Speech of W. T. Magruder, Delivered Before the County Grange of Claiborne, County, Miss.

Practically considered, this life is a question of business. To be successful in it we first should be certain our aims are in accordance with expediency, truth and justice; then patiently and earnestly use the means necessary for the attainment of the end.

Our success, however, depends on something more than mere individual effort; for the maladministration of the State can defeat our most earnest exertions.

All our rights, interests and duties are relative, and therefore coupled with relations to those of others. In the social state every important fact operates and works for either defeat or success of the general good, and only by a wise regulation or ruling of these facts can we succeed; but first, they must be understood before we undertake to regulate them, wherefore it becomes us to watch closely State affairs, for only by a successful management of the public business can we, individually, be prosperous and happy.

It was a wise conclusion of the National Grange to authorize the discussion of all and all questions involving matters of common interest affecting the general welfare. The most important of all these is the labor question, and upon the proper solution of this problem depends the prosperity, peace and happiness of the people.

The first and paramount object of every social organization, is the personal existence, and personal security of every one of its members.

The second end, or aim of its formation, is the bettering of progress of all—this embraces the health, education, enjoyment, and moral progress of all. It is the second or ulterior aim of society; the existence and security of all is its first and essential end; but essential and necessary ends, for their attainment, must have certain and unfailing means; this necessitates the condition that every efficient member of society shall work—either manually or mentally; all are to be beneficiaries, therefore, all must contribute towards the benefit; and such is the theory, and recognized as a duty in all social organizations.

Society in its working form is of pyramidal shape, and divided into three great classes, the first of which is the simple laborer, the second the skilled laborer, and the third the capitalist.

Simple or manual laborers are those who perform all simple labor operations, and aid in the handling and creation of all products in their first or raw state.

Skilled laborers are the mechanics, artisans, and those having the necessary skill to manage matters of exchange and commerce, and superintend simple labor operations.

Mental laborers are those who perform mental, professional and scientific work. In every pyramid the section, composing its base, and foundation, contains the largest amount of material; so in society, the simple labor class, is, and must be, the largest and most numerous class. For they constitute the base and foundation, from which all the other classes derive their prosperity to the people, and greatness to the State. They not only are the hewers of wood and drawers of water, but also, are the producers of all products and forms of wealth in their first state.

They hew and drive, and carry and haul. They plow and plant, and reap for all.

The next and most numerous class are the skilled laborers—the mechanics, artisans and mechanics—who exchange, build, manufacture and make all implements and machinery used in production and transportation.

The third class—the fewest in number, and the cap and crown of the pyramid, are the mental laborers, who perform mental work necessary to the security, health, happiness, education, morality and religion of all. A just approximation to the number, comprising each class, requires the first counted by millions, the second, tens of thousands, and the third class, thousands. Such is about the proportion between the three classes of workers.

Now, if the object of every social organization is to secure to all its members subsistence, security, health, enjoyment, education, morality and religion; and if to secure all these, it is essentially necessary, that every efficient member of society shall work, either manually or mentally. Then, the great problem to be solved is: How to find employment for all the workers.

In the construction of a pyramid, the first must be securely made and laid, before you can add the balance of shape which completes its symmetry of form. Just so in society, the simple labor class, first, must be put to work before the other two classes can find such demand for their services as will enable them to get employment.

The millions of simple laborers being all employed, realize a large increase of production and wealth, increased appetites, tastes and desires, together with increased ability to gratify them; and thus necessitate the employment of the other two classes, by creating a necessity for the exercise of their capacities of mind and skill, stimulating and increasing the various business interests of their several arts, trades and professions, and thus enable them to supply the wants and needs of all; whether they be educational, hygienic, ethical, moral or religious.

The greater the number at work, the more the production, the greater the wealth, and the greater the share for each; the larger the share for each, the more they are enabled to gratify their various tastes and desires. Employment, therefore, represents ability to consume, and thus, increased consumption is made to keep pace with increased production, by finding work for all the workers.

And thus you perceive, the greatest good to all and each, requires that every class of workers shall be employed in order that the industry and co-operation of all, for the general benefit of all, shall realize the never failing result of such conditions, the prosperity of the people and the grandeur of the State.

But if to secure all the good to be derived from social organization, it is necessary that all three classes of society's workers shall be employed, and to accomplish this, it is essential that the simple laborers should be kept at work, then how is it to be done? "Hoc opus est."

As a rule the simple labor class are thoughtless and thriftless, because they are poor and thoughtless. They know but little, and care less about the general welfare, indeed they are ignorant of general business affairs, and do not understand their own interests.

Now, in any part of the world, or in any form of society, there are but two motives or

inducements to work; these are necessity of fear of want, and the desire for better being,—that personal ambition which impels us to better our fortunes and that of our family.

In other and colder regions, in States with a dense, homogeneous population, with the same general aims and aspirations and natural capacities, it may be that one or both of these labor motives, are sufficiently certain and active of themselves to force the simple labor class to perform their labor obligations; but that they are not sufficient for this purpose in a Free Labor Republic form of government, all statistics prove, showing, as they do, a terrible amount of crime, destitution and death, caused by the failure of society to realize the great objects of its formation, the personal existence, security and progress of all its members. And, heretofore in Free Labor States, where a great apparent prosperity was exhibited, it can be shown—this, in a great measure due to the enormous and immense wealth, produced elsewhere, under a different social order of things, and distributed among them by the agency of commerce in supplying the wants of trade and thereby adding greatly to their prosperity by giving employment to their populations.

In semi-tropical regions like ours, where the great mass of simple laborers, are of an inferior race—the lowest in the scale of humanity, where from mildness of climate, and natural fruitfulness of soil, necessity or fear of want is almost totally absent, and where the idiosyncrasies of this race, are such as to deprive them in a great measure of all those higher attributes of mind and soul, common to other races, leaving them utterly devoid of personal pride, family and State pride—those great factors of every State's greatness. I say, these being the facts, showing as they do, the weakness and inertness of the only two labor motives, presents a very difficult problem for solution.

The question of the employment of the simple labor class, involves the relation of labor and capital, or employer, and employee, for they cannot get employment without some one to employ—and, more or less means or capital to work with.

If the capital of the employer is idle, he suffers loss; if the laborer is idle, he too suffers; and others with whom they both have business relations, also lose; in fact it becomes a community and State loss; for the idleness of capital and labor, is decreased production and wealth, and realizes decreased consumption, and therefore affects injuriously the general welfare; and thus we see the interest of both employer and employee, require them to associate and come together for their mutual, individual benefit, and that of the State; the one furnishing the intelligence and developing the enterprise to work on, and the capital to work with, and the other doing the work. The relation of employer and employee, therefore, is neither one sided nor two sided; for there are three interests involved, and three parties to it; the interest of employer and employee, and the general welfare or that of the State; wherefore, the relation should not be altogether private—controlled by the caprice or mistaken ignorance of the employer or employee, but should be somewhat public in its nature, and depending on the State's wisdom for its proper regulation.

Association is the duty of both parties, employer and employee, for neither can serve his individual interest, nor perform his society's obligation to work without it.

The employer having capital to loose by idleness, and therefore damaged by its loss, and being more intelligent and thoughtful, and possessed of more, desires his ambition to improve his condition, is an active and sufficient motive for effort on his part; but, the simple laborer may fail to perform his labor obligation, either from thoughtlessness, apathy, indifference, or a total absence of the ordinary labor motives; and thus the employer is ruined, thereby weakening and lessening the State's ability, to perform its first great society duty, to provide subsistence and security for all; this is the right of every one, the duty to secure it is sacred, and failure to perform it a crime. But duties, the performance of which involve results essential and absolutely necessary to the general welfare should be so regulated by law as to make their execution certain and unshakable.

The industrial campaign, which has for its object the existence, security and progress of all, involves the great paramount duty, and is of far more importance to the State, than any military campaign ever waged for its defence; for, without the certain and profitable management of the first, there will be but little power and ability to carry on successfully the latter.

For the accomplishment of essential and necessary ends there must be certain and unfailing means; these the law must provide; law is a rule of conduct, the expression of what is right, and the repression of what is wrong. Legislation, therefore, must give us such laws as will so regulate the relation between the employer and employee of the simple labor class, as will secure the performance of the duties of each; the duties of both parties must be defined by the State, the supreme arbiter, which alone has the goodness, wisdom and power to furnish a remedy for every wrong.

But legislation must be practical, and in accordance with the society's facts, and because they differ so widely from those existing in other communities is no reason why the State should not so adapt its legislation to the facts as to control and make them work for the greatest good to all and each, and that, too, without violating the principles of persons' liberty, expediency, truth and justice.

The climatic fact is important, for it qualifies, in a great measure, the conditions to be controlled for the general good. How to utilize the many seasons in which farm work can be done, and the great variety of field crops which can be grown and brought to market; the great fact agriculture is essential to the prosperity of all other interests, embraces at the same time the question of such industrial order and association of labor and capital as will control existing conditions, and make them profitable. For the profitable growth of annual crops, twelve months of industry is necessary, and simple labor obligations or contracts, ought not to be for a less term; farms and plantations therefore ought to be organized by the first of every year; all the facts should be understood and utilized—time, season, climate, soil, products, capabilities, and capacities of population; the general good must not be defeated by accident, caprice, ignorance or idleness.

Idleness is not only a private, but also a public loss; it is a waste against the interests of all classes; it robs those who have, and deprives the weak and helpless of that which is their due; it increases pauperism and crime, and taxes the State for the support of the one, and for the punishment of the other; it therefore is in derogation of the general welfare. The State's duty is to protect persons' and property, and provide for the general welfare; and for this purpose, full and ample powers have been given; her wisdom and goodness must direct the method of fulfilling her obligation.

The State cannot fully comply with her duty to provide for the general welfare, without collecting a large annual revenue; this she only can get from those who have; but large annual collections, without annual profits on investments, sooner or later realize confiscation of property. Confiscation is not protection. Hence she must see to it, that the relation existing between labor and capital is in accordance with justice and expediency.

Capital becomes a public benefactor when it associates with labor, and furnishes the employment which better its condition—and at the same time enables the State to comply with her obligations, and grow into a great and powerful commonwealth. The policy of the State, therefore, should be to make capital associative instead of speculative; and labor co-operative instead of unproductive; association and not speculation, represents employment for labor—the greatest of all problems to be solved, and employment realizes—redistribution of wealth, accumulated in the hands of those who have it; profitable investments—secures appreciation, instead of depreciation of property, and thus brings prosperity to the people.

The interests of all classes, therefore, requires the protection of capital, and this only can be done by civilly enforcing the performance of simple labor obligations, or contracts, by law, practically applied. Pecuniary obligations cannot be performed unless the labor obligations, upon which they are based, are also complied with. The law now enforces the one, but fails to enforce the performance of the other; and hence comes all the idleness, waste of capital, and decay of prosperity, now so manifest among us. The ruin and decay of commonwealths, once so great and powerful, is a crime against the progress and the civilization of the age. Duty to ourselves, and our posterity demands the prevention of a calamity so terrible. To do this requires, that the non-performance of simple labor obligations, essential to the general welfare, should be made a misdemeanor, by which alone can be enforced a rule of conduct and educate and lead the thoughtless and ignorant in the line of their duty and interest.

In matters of business, the two most important obligations are—pecuniary and labor obligations—in their relations, they should be mutual and reciprocal—this should be fact and actuality, not mere theory and verbiage; as duty and justice to all classes requires this, the State is the only party, with sufficient wisdom and power to secure this end, so essential to the general welfare. The law, therefore, which alone can enforce a rule of conduct, in social relations, must compel the performance of both obligations, by furnishing a practical and certain remedy, preventive of their violation. Remedies, however, must be adapted to the facts.

The State in all the majesty of her power dare not "invear the obligation of a contract." She enforces pecuniary obligations, and if avoidance is attempted by fraud, perjury and uncovers it and allows no defence. Except that of inability; simple labor obligations or contracts, are more essential to the general welfare, than pecuniary obligations, because the interests of more parties are involved, and their non-performance constitutes a great fraud, because of the injury to innocent third parties, and absence of inability.

In the one case the law prevents the lesser, and in the other permits the greater fraud. This is inconsistent with justice and expediency, for it thus legalizes robbery, by permitting the ignorant and thoughtless to exercise the private and despotic power of injuring others with impunity; and all frauds will be practiced, which the law permits. Therefore, whenever the ordinary labor motives of necessity and desire, for better being, fail to compel the performance of duties essential to the general welfare, then they should be civilly enforced; the punitive power of law should prevent labor frauds—the great curse—now so damaging to all classes; then will we have such industrial order, and such harmony and accord between labor and capital, greatly to the benefit of both, and adding greatly to the prosperity and liberty of the people; by increasing their abilities to realize the full fruition of its blessings. This progress of the law is absolutely necessary for the subsistence, security, health, education, enjoyment, morality, and religion of all classes; for these purposes governments are organized; the must exercise all powers necessary for attainment of the objects of their organization.

And how much better to do this than temporize and wait until idleness, want, crime and demoralization, together with misapprehension of causes producing them, make the people into wild, vague and disorderly theories of communism.

That this can and will be done, I am confident. Now is not the time to explain the mode and method of its doing; nor indicate details of suitable legislation.

The wisdom and ingenuity of man, which has developed such great progress in mechanism, and all the arts and sciences—taking the inert ore from the earth, and moulding it into such material forming it into such shapes and contrivances; and then by adaptation of all these, compelling them with unerring certainty, to perform the work of human hands, can certainly so arrange the relations of labor and capital as to realize the great society aim—the existence and general welfare of all. To believe otherwise, is to assert; there is progress for all the sciences except the greatest of all; the science sociology; which teaches how to adapt and regulate the relations of men and nations, for wise and good purposes.

At the risk of tiring you, I have thus endeavored to explain the philosophy and practical workings of social organization—the business of this life, in which we are all engaged, and with which we should familiarize ourselves; it is emphatically a labor question—for work is the very essence of our existence and enjoyment here, and our happiness hereafter. Let us bear in mind that the battle of life is a question of business—that its victories are to be won, in a great industrial campaign, patiently and earnestly waged, by the three great co-operating divisions of the grand army of workers.

Then let us gaily and gallantly, cheerfully and cheering, fight life's battle valiantly, nothing making fearing.

Oh that men would appreciate the heroism of work; and the provision of all true workers—whether they be the humblest, who dig from the earth, or hew from the forest, material for our existence, or to be fitted and finished by skillful and ingenious hands, for the gratification of refined tastes, or whether they be the grandest and loftiest intellects, that ever worked for the good of their fellow men, or the glory of God.

Then, indeed, will we understand and realize the great fact—that all humanity have one common interest in the general welfare of all—regarding the co-operation of all for the mutual benefit of all; then will we understand—that in order to secure this life—the most there is in it—requires all to do their duty—to work—according to the talent given them—so that the sum total of earthly good may be very large and plentiful—and thus make the distributive share for all and each of us, commensurate with our desires—then, indeed,

will we live long and enjoy this life by exercising all our susceptibilities of body, mind and soul, and thus be happy here, and glorify God hereafter.

LEGISLATION.

Legislation similar to the following prepared bill would regulate and control the facts, as they now exist, for the general welfare.

AN ACT for the promotion of Agriculture, and for the protection of Agricultural Landlords and Tenants, Employers and Employees.

WHEREAS, Agriculture is essential to the prosperity of every business interests; and WHEREAS, Annual crops cannot be profitably grown in the present disorganized condition of labor; and

WHEREAS, Justice and expediency require the relation existing between all parties necessarily associated in the labor system of the State, to be regulated by law; therefore be it enacted, etc.  
Section 1st. That any person or persons, who shall hereafter occupy any agricultural lands in this State under any contract, whatever, for any given year, shall be entitled to retain, and hold possession of such lands, so occupied, for each and every succeeding year, upon the same terms as such lands were held and occupied, the next preceding year, unless the lessor of such lands, or his agent, desiring to terminate such occupancy at the end of any given year, shall notify such tenant or tenants of such lands, that such occupancy of such lands, shall terminate and cease at the end of such year, by giving written notice to that effect, at least ten days previous to the end of such given year, except that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to vary the terms, or impair the obligation of any contract of lease for a term of years.

Section 2d. Any person or persons who shall hereafter occupy any agricultural lands in this State, under any contract whatever, for any given year, shall be held to have leased, and shall be obligated to occupy such lands, for each and every succeeding year, upon the same terms, as such lands were occupied the last preceding year, unless such tenant or tenants of such lands, desiring to terminate such occupancy at the end of any given year, shall notify the lessor of such land, or his agent, that such occupancy will terminate and cease at the end of such given year, by written notice to that effect, at least ten days previous to the ending of such given year; and if any person or persons under obligation as an agricultural tenant, to occupy and farm any lands in this State, for any given year whatever, by contract or intention of law, as aforesaid, shall abandon the said land, before the expiration of said year, he or they shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for a term not less than—days, nor more than—months, or by a fine of not less than—dollars, nor more than—dollars, or by both such fine and imprisonment; and any person whatever who shall receive as tenants, such person or persons, so abandoning such land as aforesaid, with notice of such obligation to occupy and farm the same, shall likewise be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable in like manner, as aforesaid such abandonment is punishable and in addition thereto with damages.

Sec. 3. Any person or persons who shall engage as agricultural laborers to any other person, to work any agricultural lands in this State for any given year, shall be held to have engaged or contracted with such other person to work such lands, as such agricultural laborer or laborers, for each and every succeeding year, upon the same terms as such laborer or laborers worked such lands the last preceding year; unless such laborer or laborers, desiring to terminate such obligation (so to work) at the end of any given year, shall notify the employer of such laborer or laborers, that such obligation (so to work) must terminate and cease at the end of such given year, by giving written notice to that effect, at least ten days previous to the ending of the given year, such laborer or laborers were obligated to work as aforesaid; and if any such laborer or laborers being under any such obligation as aforesaid, to work such lands as aforesaid, either by contract or intention of law, for any given year, shall leave and abandon the service of his employer or the working of such lands before the expiration of his said contract, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor—punishable, upon conviction, with imprisonment, and fine, as in case of such abandonment in case of a tenant or tenants as aforesaid—herein provided; and any person or persons, hiring, keeping or receiving into their service such laborer or laborers, so abandoning their aforesaid obligations, to work for any given year for another person, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable likewise as aforesaid.

Section 4th. In addition to other security provided by law, for securing the payment of wages due any agricultural laborer or laborers, there shall be no exemption allowed to any employer as against any wages which may be due such laborer or laborers.

Section 5th. Repealing all acts, etc., conflicting, etc.

Section 6th. To take effect from and after its passage.

Senator Lamar.

Senator Lamar has arrived in the city, this being his first appearance during the present session. He shows the effects of his recent paralytic sickness. He looks a trifle older than he did during the extra session, there being a manifest increase of the gray in his beard and hair.—Washington Post, 17th.

JUDGE CALHOUN brought our Circuit Court to a close on Monday afternoon last, having completed the call of the docket. Considerable business was continued, however, parties not being ready for trial. The next term will be held in August.—Raymond Gazette.

MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

THIRTY-EIGHTH DAY.

NIGHT SESSION.

House met at 7:30 o'clock. Mr. Speaker Johns in the Chair. Present 97; absent 23. On motion of Mr. Clark, the vote whereby H. B. No. 24, to incorporate the town of Rolling Fork, was passed, was reconsidered.

Mr. Clark offered an amendment to said bill, and as amended, it was passed. Mr. Walker introduced—

H. B. No. 400, an act to regulate the taxes of the Ripley Railroad Company.

On motion of Mr. Walker, the House considered said bill in Committee of the Whole. Mr. McGhee, of Wilkinson, in the Chair.

After considerable discussion in Committee of the Whole, the Committee rose, reported back the bill without recommendation. On motion of Mr. Lewis of Claiborne, the bill was tabled indefinitely.

Mr. Lewis called from the table the veto message of the Governor in regard to H. B. No. 297, to tax the Ripley Railroad Company. On motion of Mr. Martin the objections of the Governor to said bill were spread at large upon the journal, and the vote whereby the bill was passed was reconsidered.

The bill was lost by a vote of ayes 1, nays 8.

H. B. No. 400, to regulate the taxes of the